Application No. 10/550,736 Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 17 and 19-23 had been finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being

anticipated by Morin. Applicants wish to thank Examiners Szewczyk and Lopez for the

courtesy of an interview on October 15, 2009 at which time the application was discussed. In

particular, Applicants explained that the claims recite that the glass sheets are continuously

supported by the female former until at least the commencement of a pressing step in which a

peripheral region of superposed glass sheets are pressed between the male former and the

female former. In contrast, it was explained that lines 52-57 of col. 6, and lines 1-2 of col. 7

of Morin clearly disclose that the glass sheet is disengaged from the "female former" 4 in the

condition of Fig. 3, which occurs before the pressing between the male former and the female

former in Fig. 4. Thus the glass sheet is not continuously supported by the female former

until at least the commencement of the pressing step. In view of this discussion, it was

agreed that the claims, as further clarified as in the present amendment, define over this prior

art.

Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for

allowance and respectfully solicit an early Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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